

NEWS RELEASE

Idaho Department of Water Resources



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Varsity Homes Receives Energy Certification

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Varsity Homes in Fruitland is now an official program participant in the Idaho Energy Division's Energy Star® home certification program.

The manufactured home retailer joins 33 other Idaho manufactured home retailers in the energy efficiency partnership program with the IED. The Energy Star Program is part of Northwest Energy Efficient Manufactured Home (NEEM™) regional energy efficiency program.

"Homes built to the NEEM option are considered the most energy-efficient manufactured homes in the region," says Bob Minter, senior energy specialist with the IED and NEEM program manager.

Homes constructed in Idaho's five manufacturing plants are inspected and certified as meeting high efficiency construction specifications by the IED. Another 17 plants in Oregon, Washington, California and Canada participate in the Pacific Northwest program.

"By offering the Energy Star upgrade, Varsity Homes is giving its customers the opportunity to save up to 30 percent on their home heating and cooling costs," says Minter. "At the same time the upgrade provides a more comfortable home with a better living environment."

NEEM's regional industry program assists manufacturers and retailers in Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Washington and Canada. Under the Idaho partnership program, retailers participate in an energy-efficient home construction and marketing briefing with the IED so their sales staff can better promote the home efficiency option with their customers.

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NEEM is a partnership program between state governments, utilities, and the industry representatives committed to bring affordable, energy-efficient manufactured home products and services to the marketplace. Many of the region's utilities offer cash incentives to homebuyers as well as retail sales representatives for sales of the electrically heated NEEM option home, which is marketed under the Super Good Cents and Energy Star trademarks.

Interested homebuyers can obtain information on the NEEM option by visiting Varsity Homes at 711 NW 21st Street in Fruitland or by calling them at 208-452-4733. Consumers can also call the NEEM regional hotline, 1-888-355-6277. Online information is available at www.energy.idaho.gov.

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